IN THE DRAWINGS

The Examiner has requested correction of certain errors in the drawings. In response, Applicant has amended the specification accordingly. No new matter has been added.

IN THE SPECIFICATION

Please replace paragraph [0039] with the following:

[0039] A computer software application may be used to manage the auction. Preferably, as shown in ~~FIG. 3~~ FIG. 4, the software application has two components: a client component 16 and a server component 23. The client component 16 may operate on a computer at the site of each of the potential suppliers 30. Suppliers 30 make bids during the auction using the client component 16. The bids may be sent via the network service provider 40 to the site of the coordinator, where it is received by the server component 23 of the software application. The client component 16 may include software used to make a connection through telephone lines or the Internet to the server component 23. Bids may be submitted over this connection and updates may be sent to the connected suppliers.

Please replace paragraph [0042] with the following:

[0042] With reference to FIG. 4, a computer system 20 operates to execute the functionality for server component 23. Computer system 20 includes a processor 21, a memory ~~22A~~ 22 and a disk storage ~~22B~~ 23. Memory ~~22A~~ 22 stores computer program instructions and data. Processor 21 executes the program instructions or software, and processes the data, stored in memory ~~22A~~ 22. Disk storage ~~22B~~ 23 stores data to be transferred to and from memory ~~22A~~ 22. All these elements are interconnected by one or more buses, which allows data to be intercommunicated between the elements.

Please replace paragraph [0043] with the following:

[0043] Processor 21 may be any type of processor capable of providing the speed and functionality required by the embodiments of the invention. For example, processor 21 could be a processor from a family of processors made by ~~Intel Corporation or Motorola~~ INTEL CORPORATION ™ or MOTOROLA ™.

Please replace paragraph [0044] with the following:

[0044] For purposes of this application, memory ~~22A~~ 22 and disk ~~22B~~ 23 are machine readable mediums and could include any medium capable of storing instructions adapted to be executed by a processor. Some examples of such media include, but are not limited to, read-only memory (ROM), random-access memory (RAM), programmable ROM, erasable programmable ROM, electronically erasable programmable ROM, dynamic RAM, magnetic disk (e.g., floppy disk and hard drive), optical disk (e.g., CD-ROM), optical fiber, electrical signals, lightwave signals, radio-frequency (RF) signals and any other device or signal that can store digital information. In one embodiment, the instructions are stored on the medium in a compressed and/or encrypted format. As used herein, the phrase "adapted to be executed by a processor" is meant to encompass instructions stored in a compressed and/or encrypted format, as well as instructions that have to be compiled or installed by an installer before being executed by the processor. Further, system 20 may contain various combinations of machine readable storage devices, which are accessible by processor 21 and which are capable of storing a combination of computer program instructions and data.

Please replace paragraph [0045] with the following:

[0045] Memory ~~22A~~ 22 is accessible by processor 21 over a bus and includes an operating system, a program partition and a data partition. The program partition stores and allows execution by processor 21 of program instructions that implement the functions of each respective system described herein. The data partition is accessible by processor 21 and stores data used during the execution of program instructions. For some embodiments of the invention, the program partition

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contains program instructions that performs the buy versus leasing transformation functionality

described above.